

From: s 47 E(c)
Sent: Thu, 10 Sep 2020 11:00:21 +1000
To: Holgate, Christine
Cc: s 47 E(c) Macdonald, Nick s 47 E(c)
Subject: Updated statement for our newsroom and media requests

Hi Christine,

We have worked with Nick to combine our statement from yesterday with inclusions from today. If you ok with this, we will update on our newsroom.

Also, just flagging with you we have received a number of media requests, including interviews with you from ABC 730 with Leigh Sales, Radio National, The Guardian and ABC News Melbourne. Our approach would be to decline these politely and refer them to the below statement.

Please let me know if you are ok with the statement and approach to interview requests,

Many thanks s 47

Public Statement from Australia Post

Australia Post is aware of coverage this morning relating to the delivery of items into a locked down building in Melbourne in July.

Australia Post confirms that Ms Holgate did not speak to Senator Hanson or One Nation on this matter, nor did she threaten Melbourne City Council, with whom she has a valued relationship and holds in high regard.

Australia Post takes its obligation to deliver mail as addressed seriously, and given the unique nature of the circumstances – namely with site access being denied, due to the units being under lockdown and under the control of DHHS and City of Melbourne - met this obligation when we delivered all mail to authorised officers at the site control centre.

Upon subsequently being made aware that the items did not reach their ultimate destination, we raised it with the City of Melbourne and engaged with the sender in good faith to resolve the matter.

Commonwealth laws prohibit any conduct which interferes with the mail, and make it clear that Australia Post is obliged to complete the delivery of Australians' mail to the designated address.

The Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989 safeguards the confidentiality and security of the mail. It imposes significant restrictions on interfering with the contents of mail (e.g. opening articles) and criminal sanctions of up to 2 years imprisonment for offences.

The Crimes Act 1914 and the Criminal Code Act 1995 include provisions that make interfering with a mail article a criminal offence, with risks of fines or imprisonment for breaches. For example, section 85U makes it an offence to intentionally obstruct or hinder the carriage by post of any article. Complaints about suspected interference with mail can be referred to the Australian Federal Police for investigation.

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